

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A coding method of image information comprising:
  - a feature extraction process which quantizes and codes  
5 whole image information subjected to coding to extract feature information;
  - a coding quantity predicting process which quantizes and codes the image information, while changing a quantizing factor based on the feature information, to determine a proper  
10 quantizing factor; and
  - a coding process which utilizes a determined quantizing factor and quantizes and codes the image information to output a result as coded output data.
- 15 2. The coding method according to claim 1, wherein the coding quantity predicting process comprises:
  - a factor setting process which sets the quantizing factor of each frame based on the feature information;
  - an experimental coding process which utilizes a set  
20 quantizing factor and quantizes and codes of the image information to store result data of coding in a buffer; and
  - a factor changing process which changes the quantizing factor of each frame when an overflow or an underflow occurs in the buffer.
- 25 3. The coding method according to claim 2:
  - wherein the feature information comprises a coding quantity of each frame obtained by coding the image information, and information which specifies scenes constituting the image  
30 information;
  - wherein the experimental coding process has a process which calculates a weighting value of each frame; and
  - wherein the factor changing process changes the quantizing factor, based on the calculated weighting value and

the quantizing factor which is utilized in a previous experimental coding of the frame.

4. A coding program product of image information which  
5 makes a computer execute, by executing on the computer:  
a feature extraction process which quantizes and codes  
whole image information subjected to coding and extracts feature  
information;  
a coding quantity predicting process which quantizes  
10 and codes the image information, while changing a quantizing  
factor and determines a proper quantizing factor, based on the  
feature information; and  
a coding process which utilizes the proper quantizing  
factor and quantizes and codes the image information to output  
15 a result as coded output data.

5. A coding apparatus of image information comprising:  
a quantizing unit which quantizes the image information  
by a predetermined quantizing factor;  
20 a coding unit which codes quantizing data generated by  
the quantizing unit;  
a feature extraction unit which quantizes and codes the  
whole image information and extracts feature information; and  
a coding quantity predicting unit which quantizes and  
25 codes the image information, while changing a quantizing factor  
and determines a proper quantizing factor, based on the feature  
information,  
wherein the quantizing unit and the coding unit utilizes  
the proper quantizing factor to quantize and code the image  
30 information and outputs a result as coded output data.